

1    CLAIMS

2    I claim:

- 3        1. A system for drafting a patent application and assessing technological information  
4        comprising:  
5        at least one input device connected to at least one computer and at least one  
6        output device, wherein at least one user is capable of inputting information via the  
7        at least one input device to the at least one computer and viewing information on  
8        the at least one output device, and wherein the at least one computer is capable of  
9        storing, modifying, outputting, and retrieving information in communication with  
10       the at least one input device and at least one output device; and  
11       software installed and capable of running on the at least one computer for  
12       automatically generating a hierarchical component categorization based upon the  
13       user inputted information and outputting a viewable diagram of that  
14       categorization and for automatically generating a document for filing as a patent  
15       application, including specification and claims, based upon the user inputted  
16       information and additional text-based detailed information that is organized  
17       consistent with the diagram; wherein the hierarchical component categorization  
18       includes at least one key component and at least one subcomponent related  
19       thereto.
- 20       2. The system according to claim 1, wherein the diagram is modifiable by the at  
21       least one user and the diagram hierarchical component categorization and related  
22       text-based detailed information is automatically updated based upon the user  
23       modifications.

- 1 3. The system according to claim 1, wherein the at least one key component includes  
2 a multiplicity of components.
- 3 4. The system according to claim 1, wherein the at least one subcomponent further  
4 includes at least one sub-subcomponent.
- 5 5. The system according to claim 1, wherein the relational connection between  
6 components establishes the claims structure of the patent application.
- 7 6. The system according to claim 1, wherein the text-based information and the  
8 diagram components are automatically linked.
- 9 7. The system according to claim 6, wherein the link(s) are hyperlinks.
- 10 8. The system according to claim 1, wherein the document and diagram are capable  
11 of being output into another software program.
- 12 9. The system according to claim 1, wherein the document and diagram are  
13 exportable in HTML format.
- 14 10. The system according to claim 1, wherein the document and diagram are  
15 exportable in XML format.
- 16 11. A method for drafting a patent application comprising the steps of:  
17 at least one user entering information relating to components of a  
18 patentable invention;  
19 a system automatically generating a visual diagram of the components of  
20 the invention in a hierarchical relational diagram, wherein the system includes at  
21 least one input device connected to at least one computer and at least one output  
22 device, wherein at least one user is capable of inputting information via the at  
23 least one input device to the at least one computer and viewing information on the

1 at least one output device, and wherein the at least one computer is capable of  
2 storing, modifying, outputting, and retrieving information in communication with  
3 the at least one input device and at least one output device; and software installed  
4 and capable of running on the at least one computer for automatically generating a  
5 hierarchical component categorization based upon the user inputted information  
6 and outputting a viewable diagram of that categorization and for automatically  
7 generating a document for filing as a patent application, including specification  
8 and claims, based upon the user inputted information and additional text-based  
9 detailed information that is organized consistent with the diagram; wherein the  
10 hierarchical component categorization includes at least one key component and at  
11 least one subcomponent related thereto; and

12 the at least one user viewing the diagram and text-based information in a  
13 tangible medium.

14 12. The method according to claim 11, further including the step of:

15 at least one user entering diagram verbage by drafting the text-based detailed  
16 description or verbage of the specification section of the application for each  
17 component of the diagram.

18 13. The method according to claim 11, further including the step of:

19 at least one user inputting additional components selected from the group  
20 consisting of key components, subcomponents, and sub-subcomponents.

21 14. The method according to claim 11, further including the steps of:

22 modifying any previously inputted components within the diagram; and

